

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1283 – SB 1223

March 16, 2017

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Specifies that a requested blood test of an arrested person be a test for the presence of general hepatitis viruses, rather than just hepatitis B, if requested by a law enforcement officer, TBI employee, firefighter, emergency medical technician (EMT)-paramedic, or EMT who may have been exposed to any such virus. Removes the requirement that the request for testing must be in writing.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (005141): Deletes and rewrites the bill such that the only substantive changes are to remove the provision from the original bill that removed the requirement that the request for the test to be made in writing and to add a definition of "law enforcement officer" for the purpose of the legislation.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Independent research confirms the hepatitis B test is comparable in price to general hepatitis testing when performed by laboratories that allow blood to be shipped to the lab; as a result, it is reasonably estimated that the two tests would be similar in price in other testing environments. Any increase in expenditures for state or local government is estimated to be not significant.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-10-116 and § 68-10-117, law enforcement officers, TBI employees, firefighters, emergency medical technicians and paramedics may request an evaluation from an individual under current law if, while in the course of duty, he or she believes they may have been exposed to a potentially life-threatening airborne or bloodborne disease. Because the authority to test such individuals currently exists in statute, the provisions of this bill as amended will not significantly affect state or local government.

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- The fiscal impact to state and local governments is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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